

Childers Votes to Create Jobs, Extend Highway Funding

March 4, 2010

Washington, DC – Today, Congressman Travis Childers (MS-01) voted to create new small business and construction jobs, spur private sector hiring, and help rebuild our crumbling infrastructure. The bipartisan Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment (HIRE) Act also extends highway funding that will help maintain and improve critical roads in North Mississippi.

“My top priority is creating jobs in the First District, and today’s legislation will make an essential investment in small businesses and infrastructure projects that will help put North Mississippians back to work,” said Congressman Childers. “Specifically, this legislation will extend the Highway Trust Fund, allowing important Natchez Trace construction projects to continue and ensuring that Mississippians working on these projects are able to keep earning a living. I am pleased to join Sens. Cochran and Wicker in supporting this vital legislation, and will continue working to create and save jobs in North Mississippi.”

The HIRE Act also includes:

- **Incentives for hiring and retaining new employees.** The bill would provide employers with incentives to hire and retain new employees, including a payroll tax holiday for businesses that hire unemployed workers, to create some 300,000 jobs, and an income tax credit of \$1,000 for businesses that retain these employees.

- **Better payment options for state and local infrastructure projects.** Congressman Childers previously introduced a bill to make it easier for states to take up school construction projects. The HIRE Act includes this language. Specifically, state and local governments will be able to issue special purpose tax credit bonds for school construction, energy conservation, and renewable energy. This is similar to the Build America Bond direct payment option that has been very successful in helping State and local governments access the credit market.

A pro-gun, pro-life Mississippian, Congressman Travis Childers (D-MS) represents the First Congressional District in North Mississippi. He is a member of the fiscally conservative Blue Dog Coalition and serves on the House Agriculture and Financial Services Committee. Congressman Childers co-chairs the reestablished bipartisan Congressional Rural Caucus and was appointed to the bipartisan Second Amendment Task Force. For more information, visit www.childers.house.gov

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